

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 595

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 5124

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSAFE

CINCUSNAVEUR

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 NATO 1386

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: MARCH 11 DRC MEETING: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE

REF: A. USNATO 1134

B. USNATO 1243

C. USNATO 0701

D. USNATO 1297

BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING LENGTHY MORNING AND AFTERNOON MARCH 11 MEETING, DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC) REVIEWED REVISED DRAFT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE PARAS 1, THROUGH 33 (REFS A AND B, DRC/WP(75)- (REVISED) AND ADDENDUM THERETO). IMS, FRG, ITALIAN AND CANADIAN REPS STRONGLY ENDORSED US REPS REQUEST THAT SECTION ON WARNING OF WAR DRAW FROM US PROPOSAL (REF C, PARA 4D) RATHER THAN IS DRAFT. DRC MADE NUMEROUS EDITORIAL CHANGES TO
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REMAINING DRAFT PARAS, BUT DID NOT REPEAT NOT SUBSTANTIALLY

ALTER SECTION ON LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT (PARAS 3-8). DRC WILL COMPLETE REVIEW OF DRAFT GUIDANCE MARCH 13. IS WILL CIRCULATE FINAL DRAFT DOCUMENT IN TOTO EARLY NEXT WEEK WHICH MISSION WILL FORWARD TO WASHINGTON. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING INTRODUCTORY REMARKS TO MARCH 11 DRC DISCUSSION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, CHAIRMAN HUMPHREYS ASKED REPS FOR SPECIFIC COMMENTS ON REVISED DRAFT GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS (REFS A AND B) SO INTERNATIONAL STAFF (IS) COULD DEVELOP AND CIRCULATE FINAL DRAFT BY EARLY NEXT WEEK. HE REMINDED REPS OF AMBASSADOR BRUCES (US) PROPOSAL TO DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE PERMREPS (REF D) THAT DEFENSE MINISTERS RELEASE AN UNCLASSIFIED STATEMENT ON THE LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT AT THEIR COMING SPRING MINISTERIAL AND SAID DRC WOULD DISCUSS THIS MATTER AT FUTURE MEETING. DRC CONSIDERED - IN TURN - PARAS 1 THROUGH 33 AND MADE NUMEROUS EDITORIAL CHANGES. HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW:

2. ORGANIZATION OF GUIDANCE DOCUMENT. DRC ACCEPTED ITALIAN REPS (ADM MCCHIAVELLI) PROPOSAL THAT IS CONSIDER USING FOLLOWING MAJOR SECTION HEADINGS WHEN WRITING NEXT DRAFT:

- A. INTRODUCTION
- B. LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT
- C. THE THREAT
- D. THE DEFENSE
- E. RESOURCES AND THEIR BEST USE
- F. DIRECTIVES.

3. LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT (PARAS 3-8). REPS ACCEPTED PARAS 4,5 AND 6 WITH MINOR EDIROTAL CHANGES. AT REQUEST OF ITALIAN, SACLANT (CAPT MAYO), CANADIAN (COL SHEFFIELD) AND UK (LEGGE) REPS, US REP (DR. LEGERE) AGREED TO REVISE FIRST TWO SENTENCES IN PARA 3 TO REMOVE IMPLICATION THAT EXPANDED 1975 GUIDANCE MIGHT CHANGE DURATION OF EXISTING NATO FORCE PLANNING CYCLE. US REP ACCEPTED FRG (GEN SCHUNEMANN) AND UK REPS REQUESTS TO REVISE LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 3 TO CLARIFY ITS MEANING. AFTER UK, FRG, CANADIAN, AND NETHERLANDS (CARSTEN) REPS ASKED TO REMOVE WORKD, "OF THE ORDER TO THE 3-5 PERCENT IN THE WARSAW PACT," FROM PARA 7 (B), DRC ACCEPTED US REPS COMPROMISE TO INCLUDE A FOOTNOTE

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WHICH PRESENTS AVERAGE ANNUAL WARSAW PACT DEFENSE SPENDING INCREASES FOR PAST DECADE. NORWEGIAN (LEINE), UK AND NETHERLANDS REPS SAID THEY SUPPORTED LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT, BUT THAT PARA 8 EXAGGERATED IMPACT OF THIS CONCEPT ON EXISTING NATO PROCEDURES. US REP AGREED TO REVISE PARA 8 ACCORDINGLY AND INCLUDE (AT REQUEST OF NETHERLANDS REP) SENTENCE ON INCREASED PUBLIC AND PARLIAMENTARY DEMANDS FOR MORE EFFICIENT USE OF DEFENSE RESOURCES.

4. PURPOSE OF NATO FORCES (PARAS 19-20). DRC ACCEPTED
NETHERLANDS REPS REQUEST TO MOVE SUBSTANCE OF SUBPARAS
19 (B) (I) AND 19 (B) (II) TO EXISTING DRAFT PARA 20 (B)
AND REVISED LAST CLAUSE OF REMAINING SUBPARA 19 (B) TO READ,
"AS TO PROVIDE A CREDIBLE OPTION LINKING THE CONVENTIONAL AND
STRATEGIC NUCLEAR FORCES OF NATO." DRC ACCEPTED US REPS
REQUEST TO INCLUDE NEW LANGUAGE READING "PROVIDING A SOURCE
OF LIMITED AND CONTROLLED OPTIONS OTHER THAN THE EARLY USE OF
ALLIED STRATEGIC FORCES" IN REVISED PARA 20 (B). AT REQUEST
OF IMS REP (GEN TOMMASINI), DRC CHANGED SUBPARA 20 (C) TO
READ, "IT IS THE FUNCTION OF THE STRATEGIC NUCLEAR FORCES TO
STRENGTHEN FLEXIBLE RESPONSE OPTIONS, TO PROVIDE THE CAPABILITY
OF EXTENDING DETERRENCE ACROSS A WIDE RANGE OF CONTINGENCIES,
AND TO PROVIDE AN ULTIMATE SANCTION FOR THE OVERALL STRATEGY."

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 1386

5. WARNING OF WAR (PARAS 22-25). CHAIRMAN HUMPHREYS, NOTING

THAT MC-161/75 CONFERENCE WOULD NOT PRODUCE SUBSTANTIVE RESULT PRIOR TO MID-APRIL, SUGGESTED DRC DEFER CONSIDERING IS DRAFT STATEMENTS ON DURATION OF WARNING TIME UNTIL THEN. US REP (BGEN BOWMAN) COUNTERED THAT DEFERRAL IN FAVOR OF EXPERT JUDGEMENT IN ITSELF CONSTITUTED ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF DROPPING MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE STATEMENT ON DAYS OF WARNING, AND SIMPLY REFERRING TO "CURRENT EDITION OF MC-161." HE CONTINUED THAT, IN DECEMBER, MINISTERS

HAD CLEARLY CHARGED PLANNERS TO FOCUS ON USE, RATHER THAN DURATION OF WARNING, CALLED FOR LANGUAGE DESCRIBING A STEP-BY-STEP NATO COUNTERBUILDUP TO MATCH WP PREPARATIONS, AND ASKED DRC FOR FURTHER INPUTS ON USE OF WARNING TIME. IMS, FRG, ITALY AND CANADA REPS IMMEDIATELY AND STRONGLY SUPPORTED US REP. UK REP, SPEAKING UNINSTRUCTED, SUPPORTED US REP ON NEED TO FOCUS ON USE OF WARNING TIME, BUT DESIRED SOME MINISTERIAL CONFIDENTIAL

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GUIDANCE COVERAGE OF DURATION OF WARNING TIME, USING LANGUAGE OF MC-161/74 IF NECESSARY, SO THAT GUIDANCE DOCUMENT WOULD STAND ON ITS OWN AND WOULD CALL MINISTERIAL ATTENTION TO THE ISSUE. NORWAY, TURKEY AND BELGIUM REPS, IN VARYING DEGREES, SUPPORTED UK REP. CHAIRMAN THEN REITERATED HIS RATIONALE FOR EXPLICIT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE COVERAGE OF DURATION OF WARNING; REALISTIC ASSUMPTIONS ON SUBJECT ARE ESSENTIAL FOR RATIONAL DEFENSE PLANNING. US REP, RECALLING FRUITLESS ARGUMENTS OVER NUMBERS OF DAYS DURING FALL, 1974 CONSIDERATION OF ISSUE, REMINDED CHAIRMAN THAT DRC WOULD ONLY BE ABLE TO AGREE TO A RANGE OF NUMBERS, COMPRISING POSSIBLE WARNING TIME, DEPENDING ON THE SITUATION IN QUESTION. DRC THEN CONSIDERED IS AND US DRAFT LANGUAGE (PARA 4D REF C) ON USE OF WARNING TIME IN PARALLEL AND: ADOPTED US POINT ON STEP-BY-STEP NATO COUNTERBUILDUP; FRG POINT ON NEED FOR NATIONAL ACTIONS DURING WARNING PERIOD, WHILE NATIONS CONSULT WITHIN NATO ON NATIONAL MEASURES; AND ITALY POINT ON NEED FOR SPEEDY NATO CONSULTATIONS IN TIME OF CRISIS. CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED THAT NEXT IS DRAFT WOULD INCORPORATE THESE POINTS, THEN SKIPPED OVER IS DRAFT PARAGRAPHS ON DURATION OF WARNING TIME, WHICH WILL REMAIN IN BRACKETS IN NEXT DRAFT.

6. NATURE OF ATTACK ON DEFENSE (PARAS 26-33). DRC REPS DISCUSSED AT LENGTH TURKISH REPS (TOPUR) PERSISTENT REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL LAST SENTENCES IN PARA 27 READING "IN VIEW OF THE FORCE CAPABILITIES AS WELL AS THE NATURE OF OBJECTIVES OF THE WARSAW PACT, THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE ABOUT THE SOUTHEASTERN FLANK." NETHERLANDS, FRG, NORWEGIAN AND DANISH (ROSENTHAL) REPS OPPOSED TURKISH PROPOSAL; AT TURKISH REPS SOMEWHAT BEATED INSISTENCE, ASYG HUMPHREYS AGREED TO PLACE SENTENCE IN BRACKETS FOR NEXT DRAFT. DRC ACCEPTED TURKISH REPS ADDITION TO FIRST SENTENCE OF PARA 28 WHICH WILL CITE NEED FOR EFFECTIVE DEFENSE IN FORWARD AREAS THAT IS CAPABLE OF DENYING THE WARSAW

PACT AN OPPORTUNITY TO ESTABLISH A FIAT ACCOMPLI. DRC ACCEPTED
NETHERLANDS, FRG, AND ITALIAN REPS REQUESTS TO PLACE EXISTING
PARA 29 AFTER EXISTING PARA 32. AT REQUEST OF US AND IMS REPS
DRC REPLACED WORDS "NOR SO AUTOMATIC AS" IN LAST SENTENCE OF
PARA 30 WITH , "NOR WOULD THE RISK APPEAR TO THE SOVIETS
SO GREAT AS..." ASYG HUMPHREYS SAID IS WOULD CONSIDER SEVERAL US,
DANISH, UK, NETHERLANDS AND ITALIAN REPS PROPOSALS FOR REMOVING
FROM PARA 31 AND 32 THE IMPLICATION OF AUTOMATIC ESCALATION
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FROM WARSAW PACT ADVENTURES AT SEA TO NATO NUCLEAR RESPONSES ON
SEA, ON LAND, OR IN THE AIR.
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